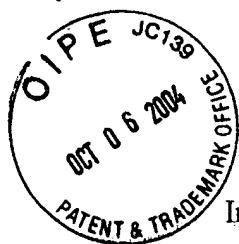


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00862.022278.

PATENT APPLICATION



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:)
KAZUMA SATO et al.)
Application No.: 09/840,892)
Filed: April 25, 2001)
For: APPARATUS AND METHOD)
FOR COLLECTING USED)
OFFICE SUPPLIES)

Examiner: N/Y/A
Group Art Unit: 2161
October 5, 2004

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OCT 12 2004

Technology Center 2100

Mail Stop Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

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GROUP 3600

SUPPLEMENTAL
INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Sir:

Further to the Information Disclosure Statement (IDS) filed May 14, 2004, Applicants respectfully direct the Examiner's attention to JP 11-70378, which is listed on the attached Form PTO-1449 and of which a copy is enclosed.

As was the case with the May 14th IDS, this document was cited during prosecution of a Japanese patent application corresponding to the above U.S. application.

A copy of the Japanese Office Action, which is dated July 30, 2004, is enclosed.

An English-language abstract for the Japanese document cited in the Japanese Office Action are enclosed. A concise explanation of relevance for this document is believed to be provided by the English-language abstract.

Inasmuch as the subject application has not yet received a first Office Action, it is believed that this Information Disclosure Statement is timely. See 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b)(3). Accordingly, the Examiner is urged to study this information in its entirety and to form an independent determination of the materiality of the information to the claimed invention. Additionally, the Examiner is requested to indicate that this information has been considered by initialing the appropriate portion of Form PTO-1449.

Applicants' undersigned attorney may be reached in our Costa Mesa, CA office at (714) 540-8700. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our below-listed address.


Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Frank L. Cire', is written over a horizontal line.

Attorney for Applicants
Frank L. Cire
Registration No. 42,419

FITZPATRICK, CELLA, HARPER & SCINTO
30 Rockefeller Plaza
New York, New York 10112-2200
Facsimile: (212) 218-2200

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FORM PTO 1449 (modified) U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE LIST OF REFERENCES CITED BY APPLICANT(S) (Use several sheets if necessary)			ATTY DOCKET NO. 00862.022278.		APPLICATION NO. 09/840,892		
			APPLICANT Kazuma Sato et al.				
			FILING DATE April 25, 2001			GROUP 2161	
U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS							
*EXAMINER INITIAL	DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE	
						RECEIVED OCT 12 2004 Technology Center 2100	
						RECEIVED OCT 21 2004 GROUP 3600	
FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS							
	DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUBCLASS	TRANSLATION YES/NO/ OR ABSTRACT	
	11-70378	3/99	Japan			Abstract	
						RECEIVED OCT 21 2004 GROUP 3600	
OTHER DOCUMENT(S) (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)							
	Japanese Office Action, dated July 30, 2004, in JP 2001-123002						
EXAMINER				DATE CONSIDERED			

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.